

A glance at the number and nature of the many proposed laws there enumerated should convince even those who are skeptical that the constituted authorities of the Association have abundant work cut out for them, once a California Legislature convenes for its biennial law-making. If space permitted, many an interesting story could be related concerning some of the measures—on what took place, for example, in committee meetings, behind the scenes, and on the Assembly and Senate floors.

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**Comments on New Statutes with Penalizing Clauses.**—Because several of the laws that will become operative about September 19 have important implications in medical practice, some additional comment will now briefly be made:

*Prenatal and Premarital Laws.*

Chapter 127, California Acts of 1939, on Prenatal Examination, and Chapter 382, on Premarital Examination, are two laws, the complete text of which appeared on page 71 of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE for July, 1939, with some editorial comment on page 6 of that number. Attention is especially called to the misdemeanor provisions for noncompliance with the law's provisions.

On page 139 of the August issue will also be found a question-and-answer résumé of the Premarital Law (Chapter 382); and it is suggested that all licensed physicians acquaint themselves with the interpretative comment concerning that new statute which goes into effect on September 19, 1939. From now on patients who contemplate matrimony will be consulting their physicians on these matters, and it may be embarrassing not to have the correct answers at hand. (In this issue, see items on pages 200-202 and 208-211.)

*Compensation Protection for All Employees Law.*

Assembly Bill 1521 lays down stringent provisions whereby employers must carry compensation insurance for all employees (casual employees and domestics working less than fifty-two hours weekly excluded), be they only one. Physicians, therefore, must carry compensation insurance coverage for all office employees and nurses. Violation of the new statute constitutes a misdemeanor. The text of the measure appears in this issue of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, on advertising page 45.

*Epilepsy Law*

A new law, operative on September 3, makes epilepsy a reportable disease. A brief item concerning this statute appears in this issue, on page 183.

*Narcotic Prescription Laws.*

In the April issue of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, on page 313, appeared a letter worthy of perusal, from Paul E. Madden, Chief, California Division of Narcotic Enforcement, in which was outlined certain proposed legislation on the giving of prescriptions for narcotics. The statutes then suggested having been enacted, and receiving the approval of the Governor, were expected to become operative in September, when a violation of the new law will be regarded as a misdemeanor. Hence, every physician owes it to himself to be-

come acquainted with its stipulations. The informative letter referred to above is worthy of perusal.

(Since writing the above, Chief Madden tells us that the State's emergency fund has been greatly depleted because of forest-fire expense, and that, on that account, it is probable that the new law will not be carried out on September 19. He also states that, prior to the law's enforcement, the books to be used by physicians must first be distributed. Therefore, until such time as the California Division of Narcotic Enforcement supplies the new narcotic booklets, the procedures at present in vogue may be carried on.)

**1940 ANNUAL SESSION: HOTEL DEL CORONADO**

**Next Annual Session: Attention of Essayists and Exhibitors Requested.**—At the top of the front cover of each issue of the OFFICIAL JOURNAL appear the following notices:

**NEXT ANNUAL SESSIONS**

*California Medical Association, Hotel Del Coronado, Coronado, May 6-9, 1940.*

*American Medical Association, New York, June 10-14, 1940.*

Attention, therefore, is directed anew to these announcements, not only to remind component county societies and their members of the dates of the next annual session of the State Association, but to especially request all who have papers or scientific exhibits in mind to promptly communicate with the officers of the scientific sections, before which the papers should preferably be given. The list of section officers appears in every issue of the OFFICIAL JOURNAL, on advertising page 6. Letters should be sent to the proper section secretaries.

Communications relative to scientific exhibits should be sent to the Association Secretary at the California Medical Association central office in San Francisco.

Requests for hotel reservations should go forward to the Hotel Del Coronado, Coronado, California, in care of the assistant manager, Mr. Ernest R. Tiedemann.

**SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

**House of Delegates Resolution No. 6.**—At the Del Monte annual session, the House of Delegates deemed it wise to approve Substitute Resolution No. 6, which provided for a special assessment of \$10, payable by all active members, as of date of June 1, 1939. Concerning the provisions contained in the resolution, informative communications have been sent by the California Medical Association Council to all component county societies and to every member of the California Medical Association. In the current issue, also, appear the minutes of the Council's meeting held on August 5, 1939, and to these the attention is called of all members who may have special interest in the plans that were comprehended in